

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/30/68

On August 23, 1968, Mr. HARVEY A. KLINGEMAN and Mrs. CLARA S. KLINGEMAN, owners, Indian Trail Restaurant, 507 Chestnut Street, Winnetka, Illinois, phone HI 6-1703, residence 391 Linden, Winnetka, Illinois, phone HI 6-2932, were interviewed jointly in the conference room at the Winnetka, Illinois, Police Department, after being introduced to the interviewing Agents by Chief DON DERNING (NA), Winnetka, Illinois, Police Department.

They advised that on Tuesday, August 20, 1968, they were contacted by WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, Hartselle, Alabama, who is the author of "Three Lives For Mississippi". Mr. HUIE was accompanied by Mr. (First Name Unknown) HANSEN, who is a photographer for "Look" magazine. Mr. HUIE exhibited letters which he claimed were from JAMES EARL RAY and were addressed to a Mississippi attorney. These letters were purportedly given to HUIE by the attorney. HUIE told them that he had obtained all commercial rights to RAY's story and for this he has agreed to underwrite the costs of RAY's defense in the forthcoming murder trial in Memphis, Tennessee. The aforementioned letters were written on half sheets of yellow legal foolscap and both of the KLINGEMANS stated that they recognized the handwriting on these papers as that of the subject RAY, whom they knew under the name of JOHN RAYNS. At this point, the KLINGEMANS were exhibited several photographs of the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, along with other photographs and they both positively identified JAMES EARL RAY as a man employed by them from May 3, 1967, to June 24, 1967, as a dishwasher and cook's helper. The KLINGEMANS verified the foregoing statement by furnishing to the interviewing Agents their payroll ledger sheet. A review of the ledger sheet reveals the following information:

Name	JOHN L. RAYNS
Address	2731 Sheffield, Chicago, Illinois
Occupation	Cook's helper
Social Security Number	318-24-7098
Rate	\$2.10 per hour

On 8/23/68 at Winnetka, Illinois File # 44-1114-37  
 by SA RAMON W. STRATTON  
SA RENE J. DUMAINE RJD/mr Date dictated 8/28/68

Number of Exemptions	1
Marital Status	Single

In addition, the KLINGEMANs also made available the Employee's Withholding Exemption Certificate made out in the same name and address and Social Security Number as set forth above, dated May 10, 1968.

They also made available the following listed payroll checks all drawn on the Winnetka Trust and Savings Bank bearing the identification in the upper left-hand corner of Indian Trail Restaurant, Inc., 507 Chestnut Street, Winnetka, Illinois, 60093, made out to either JOHN L. RAYNS or JOHN RAYNS and signed by HARVEY A. KLINGEMAN. The checks are endorsed by JOHN L. RAYNS or JOHN RAYNS, two of which have the address 1648 Lunt, Chicago, underneath the signature. These checks are as follows:

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DATE</u>
4838	\$57.69	May 7, 1967
4913	\$34.89	May 14, 1967
4987	\$84.89	May 21, 1967
5058	\$84.89	May 28, 1967
5130	\$89.63	June 11, 1967
5283	\$95.19	June 18, 1967
5357	\$77.53	June 25, 1967

The foregoing checks total \$664.34.

Mr. KLINGEMAN advised that to the best of his recollection at this time, the last check, Number 5357, was mailed to RAY's brother, name unrecalled, in Northbrook, Illinois, at RAY's request since he left his employment prior to receipt of the check, stating that he was going to work on boats with his brother. As Mr. KLINGEMAN recalls, he received a letter from RAY requesting that the pay due be sent to his brother.

Both of the KLINGEMANS characterized JAMES EARL RAY as an excellent employee, quiet, attentive, prompt, polite, a very good worker, but to their knowledge, had no friends or visitors during the time of his employment. They did recall that during the subject's last week of employment, he received three or four phone calls from a male individual who stated that he was RAY's brother. They could not recall the individual's name, nor did they believe that they would recognize this person's voice if they heard it again.

In conversation with Mr. HUIE, the KLINGEMANS received the following information on a confidential basis and advised that they were rather reluctant to divulge it, but felt that it was their duty as citizens. They requested that this information be maintained on a confidential basis within the FBI. They advised that they contacted Chief DERNING because of his reputation and are now following his advice in furnishing this information to the FBI:

Mr. HUIE showed the KLINGEMANS letters from RAY in which RAY listed employment at the Indian Trail Restaurant. (It should be noted that this restaurant is an old, large, upper class restaurant, of excellent reputation. Chief DERNING advised that the KLINGEMANS themselves have an excellent reputation within the community and that he holds them in very high regard). HUIE told them that RAY had served seven years of a twenty-year sentence at Jefferson, Missouri, prison, during which time he had eight visitors, one of whom was his brother, however, HUIE did not identify which one. Prior to his escape, RAY had stashed away a razor, green prison trousers which had been dyed black, and 12 hersey bars in anticipation that he would have to go without food for some time. RAY also had \$300 in his shoe. He escaped in a red truck and walked to Chicago, Illinois, from Jefferson City, Missouri, which took him about eight days. (The KLINGEMANS do recall that when the subject first appeared at the restaurant, his feet were swollen and that their sister-in-law gave him two Ace bandages to use which he returned three or four days later. This supposedly was mentioned in the letter in HUIE's possession).

Thereafter, RAY read the advertisement in the Tribune wherein the KLINGEMANS had advertised for help in the restaurant. HUIE said that the subject in the letter

mentioned that the employment at the Indian Trail Restaurant was the "high point of his life".

HUIE mentioned that RAY had had only three jobs in his life, one of which was in a shoe factory outside of East St. Louis, Illinois, which was prior to his going to prison the last time. He also said that during the time RAY was employed at the restaurant, he was "tapped on the shoulder" by an individual who recognized him and who threatened to reveal his identity to the police and cause RAY's return to prison if he, RAY, did not work for this person. HUIE said that RAY was given \$1,200 during the initial contacts, by the alleged conspirators, and was ultimately paid \$15,000, but was due to receive more.

Again, according to HUIE, RAY was told to go to Canada to investigate the difficulty of crossing the border. Supposedly RAY made two trips through the Detroit Tunnel into Canada. He also made a third trip to Canada, date and sequence not given, and "was instructed" to obtain a 40-year-old newspaper, get the names of the males born that date, and search the current phone directory for similar names. He was then to surveil the individuals with similar names to determine whether or not his physical description was similar to theirs. Thereafter, he telephoned persons of his like description, utilizing a pretext, and thereby found a man who had never applied for a passport. RAY then applied for a passport in this name.

The KLINGEMANs advised that they were not sure that they were furnishing this information in its proper sequence, but that to the best of their recollection, the information preceding and following was given to them in this order by HUIE. Thereafter, RAY was given more money to purchase a Mustang which was to be driven to Acapulco, Mexico, for the purpose of obtaining a tourist sticker. He then drove through Mexico to the West Coast and hid out there to receive further instructions from the other individuals in the alleged conspiracy. HUIE stated that RAY was flown to Atlanta from the West Coast, but the time was not right, there was no action and he was sent back to California. He was also told to be in Mississippi at a certain time and place. Supposedly Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was at a Holiday Inn Motel in Atlanta, Georgia, when RAY was flown there.

Subsequently, RAY was given money to obtain binoculars and a shotgun and was to go to Memphis to be somewhere at 3 p.m. in room 312 or 313. Supposedly there were other individuals who also came to this room and there was a Negro male who purportedly called KING out to the balcony. According to HUIE, the actual murderer of KING was not RAY, although RAY was present and at a later time (probably the trial) RAY will identify the murderer. RAY did pick up the rifle, ran to his car, and sped to a rendezvous in Atlanta, Georgia. He was supposed to pick up a "bundle of money", however, the conspirators did not appear. RAY allegedly spent several days or hours at this apartment in Atlanta, Georgia, awaiting the arrival of his "fellow conspirators".

According to HUIE, the plan was for RAY to go to Mexico, but immediately fly north to throw off pursuit and to steer all investigation to Mexico. However, since the conspirators did not appear in Atlanta, RAY fled to Canada thereafter utilizing his knowledge to obtain a passport and fled to England.

The KLINGEMANs advised that the rest of HUIE's story substantially follows the newspaper accounts which appeared after subject RAY's arrest in England. They did note that HUIE stated that RAY did rob a bank in London because he "got real low on money". HUIE at no time identified the alleged fellow conspirators of RAY. He did swear the KLINGEMANs to secrecy and told them that he would mail the "Look" proofs on September 10, 1968, and the story would be in the November 10, 1968, issue of Look magazine. Both Mr. and Mrs. KLINGEMAN advised that they would make these proofs available to the interviewing Agents for review.

The KLINGEMANs advised that RAY began working for them as a dishwasher and because of his excellent attitude was advanced to cook's helper. During the time he was in their employ, they did not observe him in a car, nor did they know him to own an automobile. He had no visitors, he did not wear glasses, he had no women friends, nor did he make any advances toward the female personnel employed at the restaurant and they noted that his hair was "less bushy" during the time he was at the restaurant than shown in the photographs.

They are not sure how he came to work from his apartment, but believe he might have been met at the Eden's Expressway by WILLIE PERRY and FRED EURNS, who were also employees at the restaurant.

His conduct was excellent and they cannot recall him making any comments one way or another about members of the Negro race and specifically no comments whatsoever concerning MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RAY made no reference to his previous employment, but did mention that he was in Brimerhaven, Germany, during World War II. They advised that when RAY received the phone calls during his last week of employment he seemed to be disturbed and that his concentration on his work was not as good as it usually was.

They then recalled that according to HUIE, that when JAMES EARL RAY left England, he was going to Lisbon to get to Africa, however, he was unable to do so which is when he returned to England and held up a bank receiving about \$200 in loot. They again stated that the information furnished to them by HUIE came from letters which RAY had written to his attorney, who in turn turned them over to the author. Also Mr. KLINGEMAN stated that in one of the letters which he believed was to the attorney from RAY, while he was in London, England, there was a drawing identifying a location which appeared to be Diversey Street and Sheffield Avenue in Chicago, Illinois.

At the conclusion of the interview, the Klingemans again requested that this information be maintained in confidence and expressed a willingness to co-operate with the FBI in any way possible.